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MANUFACTURERS

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

[31]

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VUEX ROAD, C.I.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 22nd August, 1902.

WHEN we consider the vast number of points at which the interests of Great Britain and Russia come into contact, throughout the world, we need feel no surprise that there should be in either country a party which urges that the only solution of the difficulties which constantly arise is the formation of a definite understanding between the two nations. In England we are well aware of the existence of such a party, whose prophet is Mr. HENRY NORMAN. The members of this party are for the most part clear-headed men, who are quite able to make skillful use of the strong arguments lying ready to hand. The more eccentric type of Russophil, such as Mr. W. T. SZKAD, is less discriminating in advocating the advantages of friendship with the government of the Tsar. That there is in Russia a party which similarly hopes for a satisfactory understanding with Great Britain is a less familiar fact to most English readers. There has just been issued from London the first number of a magazine entitled *Russia*, the object of which is to "make known to English people what Russia is doing to-day and what she will do to-morrow," to be an organ to serve the interests of both countries and to become a link between them not only in political, but still more in economical and commercial problems. As far as the first number is concerned, we should judge that *Russia* should do something toward giving the English a chance of forming a juster estimate of Russia's potentialities and of the openings possible for commerce. As the first article points out, the Germans and later the Americans have been doing their best to appropriate for themselves the Russian market. Great Britain still occupies the first place in the import and export trade of Russia, but her preeminence

is being threatened, and Germany has already gone ahead of us in the item of exports to Russia. As we have so often heard before, the Germans have studied the country's wants more carefully and consequently offer the vendors the goods which they are most likely to want. It is to be trusted that the constant dwelling upon this fact is beginning to have some effect upon British firms doing business abroad.

The desirability, however, of closer commercial relations between Britain and Russia is not disputed. It is when we approach the question a political drawing together that the subject becomes so difficult. The editor of *Russia* states that "England herself is to-day satisfied that she must abandon the position of traditional isolation for an useful and a powerful alliance in Europe." Such an ideal alliance, he continues, has been prepared by history itself. "Russia is the Great Power which is indicated by the record of centuries, no less than by her geographical, economical, and political position, as England's natural ally." Now this argument starts with error, for the mass of the British people is no more convinced than are its leaders that an European alliance is necessary or desirable. Public political opinion is as much against an alliance which would entangle us on the Continent of Europe as it has ever been.

Even those who were thoroughly weary of the phrase "glorious isolation" and welcomed with enthusiasm the Anglo-Japanese agreement, have no wish to revolutionise our policy in Europe by an alliance with one of the land Powers. When the writer in *Russia* goes on to say that "England and Russia have very great interests in common in the world, and the fate of these interests depends on their mutual confidence," we can go a long way with him, and the intention of his magazine to encourage this confidence deserves the strongest possible support. He continues, however, by saying that "unhappily, if Russia knows her great neighbour in Asia, England knows Russia only superficially, hence the 'mistrust of England towards Russia.' The want of knowledge of Russia in England must be admitted, but where does Russia show her knowledge of England? In the S. Petersburg journals or other organs of the educated classes? Such misstatements injure a good cause. It must be recognised alike by Russia and Britain that each is ignorant of the other's country and must set himself to learn something, for thus alone is an improvement in relations possible. By all means an understanding in commercial and economic affairs should be arrived at, and if it is possible a political understanding would be extremely desirable. But the advocates of concessions to Russia to promote such an understanding as the latter forget Port Arthur. As for an actual alliance, that is a dream—and a dream which few would care to realise.

One fatal Chinese case of plague was reported up to noon yesterday. The Japanese cruisers *Yakumo* and *Tokio*, which should now be at Port Arthur, ready to bring back to Japan Prince Komatsu, have with them, to receive his Highness, Prince Yamashita and Prince Kiyono.

A report was current in Seoul, apparently well-founded, that the Seoul Electric Railway, previously in American hands, was to pass definitely into Japanese control on the 15th inst. The stock is largely held by Japanese, but the Company has hitherto been ostensibly an American concern.

The second edition of the Special Coronation Supplement of the *Hongkong Daily Press* is now on sale for the next homeward mail. The first edition is out of print. The total number of copies printed of both editions was 2,500, which is a record number of any special edition of a newspaper issued locally.

The Chinese students at Tokyo are very angry, as a result of the deportation of the riflemen in the recent agitation at the Chinese Embassy. The efforts of a number of peace-makers seem to have had no result, for most of the Chinese talk of quitting Japan—either for their native land or for England.

In the Supreme Court yesterday, it was noticeable that the new Attorney-General (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) occasionally addressed the Chief Justice as "sir" instead of employing the term "Your Lordship" which is customary here as in England. Sir Henry, noticing the slip himself, explained it by stating that he came from a part of Australia where "sir" is the term used by the Bar when addressing the Bench.

In our Portuguese contemporary *O Patriota* we notice a letter, signed "B."—this is the initial by the way, of the consular agent for France at Macao—on the subject of French designs on China. The writer thinks that the Portuguese Government did wrongly in preventing the sale of the Boa Vista Hotel to France, and that too much has been made of the affair. Incidentally, "B." in citing the *Hongkong Daily Press* omits to mention that the *Daily Press* was considerably the first to call attention to the Boa Vista affair and its sequel.

Up to the 14th inst. 239 cholera cases had occurred in Nagasaki.

According to a Kobe paper, the *City of Peking* is not likely to be ready for sea again until October.

Harbour Dues at Sandakan have been reduced to three cents per ton, and the water-rate has been reduced to 65 cents per ton.

Mr. Sharrett, U.S. Tariff Commissioner, having been recalled by his Government, left Shanghai on the 18th inst., having signed the new Tariff on the previous Saturday.

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty—Commander—P. L. Field, to the *Albion*, to date August 5; the appointment of O. De B. Brock is cancelled.

It is stated that during the offertory in a New York church recently the congregation was entered by a young woman who whistled Schumann's "Traumerei," and on being encoered after the benediction she whistled "The Mocking Bird."

A telegram dated Tientsin, 15th August, to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says:—The Provisional Government was dissolved today. General Yuan Shikai entered the city at noon while all foreign troops, headed by the German regimental band, evacuated the city late in the afternoon.

The Japanese Government is in receipt of an official despatch from its Minister at Washington to the effect that the Crown Prince of Siam, now in the United States, will leave San Francisco for Yokohama early in November next. He is to spend some time in Japan, on his way home.

His many friends here and in the East generally will be pleased to hear that the popular Mr. H. L. Coghlan of Singapore has set up in business for himself as auctioneer and valuator under the sign of Messrs. H. L. Coghlan & Co.

The City of Manila has brought a suit against Mr. Walter Morley, Acting Manager of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., alleging that he has illegally occupied land belonging to the city, thereby causing a loss to the commonwealth of two thousand dollars, American currency. The city sues for this amount in damages and also requests that his tenants be ejected from the property in question.

The appointment of a Japanese trade commissioner at Dalny is a project which the Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce first brought to the notice of the Tokyo Government. Similar memorials were sent in by the Chamber at Kobe and Hakodate. The matter will probably be submitted by the Government to the next session of the Diet, and it is anticipated that the proposal will be approved without any difficulty. The sum required annually for the purpose is estimated at 20,000 Yen.

A despatch to the *New York Journal* from Lenox, Mass., says: The leading automobilists of Lenox and their chauffeurs now go armed while operating their machines. This is due to communications printed in local papers declaring the autos a menace to life and calling upon persons in danger to protect themselves with clubs and stones. Revolvers are now carried in every auto in Lenox, to be used in case of an attack, it being feared that any excuse will be taken to mob them. One automobilist says that the situation is worse than touring through Italy, where there are brigands to fear.

According to a Peking telegram published by the *Osaka Mainichi*, a traveller who returned to Peking on the 10th inst. from the Amur district states that officers belonging to the Russian forces were endeavouring to obtain permission to construct railways in Mongolia. The Russians had established four schools at Harbin and were constructing a new road to Changshakao, near Peking. The same correspondent says that Russia has agreed to withdraw her troops from Newchwang with the first period stipulated for the evacuation of Manchuria, and the troops, 20,000 in all stationed in the district south-west of the River Liao before the end of next month. The troops under General Mah Yu K'uo were expected to proceed to those districts on the 23rd inst. to take the place of the Russian troops.

Captain Hobson, of *Merrimac* fame, seems destined to be the butt of the journalist, for some unexplained reason. A Bloomington, Illinois, writer describes in a San Francisco paper how Captain Hobson and Miss Stevenson (to whom it is said he is engaged) were strolling through the fashionable residences district of the city when they came across a party of children mourning the plight of a young robin which had fallen from the nest. Captain Hobson called for a basket, and placing the bird therein, swung the basket over his arm, and then clambered up the tree with the ease and dexterity of a sailor and placed the bird in the nest, while Miss Letitia applauded his kindly act from the pavement below. Captain Hobson has apparently never been forgiven for being kissed so much on his return to the United States.

## LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver for Hongkong via the usual route of call on the 18th inst. p.m.  
The N.P. steamer *Victoria* left Yokohama for Tacoma on the 21st inst.

## TELEGRAMS.

## "DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.

## FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, 20th August, 7.40 p.m.

## THE U.S. AND JAPAN IN THE PACIFIC.

The Japanese Minister at Washington has declared that Japan has no intention of claiming the sovereignty over Wake and Midway Islands.

[A previous telegram, it will be remembered, stated that the United States have ordered vessels to visit Wake and Midway Islands, south-east of Marcus Island, where the Japanese were reported to have settled; the United States claim the Islands, but have no objection to Japanese settlers on them unless Japanese sovereignty is asserted.—E.D.P.]

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 21st August, 4.30 p.m.

## MURDER OF TWO C.I. MISSIONARIES IN HUNAN.

A Hunan correspondent reports that two members of the Chinn Inland Mission, Messrs. J. R. Bruce and R. H. Lewis, have been killed in a riot at Ch'ench'eng (Hunan), caused by a rumour of their having administered poisoned medicine. The Chinese Imperial Post Office was also demolished in the riot and the postmaster wounded, probably fatally.

## REUTERS'S SERVICE.

LONDON, 19th August.

## THE FLEET DISPERSED.

The Japanese and other foreign warships assembled for the Coronation review at Spithead, have sailed homeward.

ANOTHER VOLCANIC DISASTER. The whole of the population of Guano Islands, consisting of 150 persons, in the Torishima group to the northward of Bonin Islands, south-east of Japan, have been overwhelmed by a volcanic eruption.

## THE ST. LEGER.

The scratching of *Ad Patria* for the St. Leger is denied.

## THE DISTURBANCES IN FRANCE.

Another French officer has been imprisoned in a fortress for refusing to participate in the expulsion of nuns from Douarnenez, Brittany.

## THE SHAH IN LONDON.

A State banquet has been given in honour of the Shah of Persia at Buckingham Palace.

## HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday afternoon in the Board Room. Present—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. C. McElmassey, Acting Registrar-General; Mr. E. Osborne, and Mr. Lau Chu Pak.

## SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The report of the Sanitary Surveyor (Mr. J. J. Bryan) for the second quarter of 1902, before that plans had been passed for the drainage of 83 houses, bringing the total number in hand during the quarter up to 1,072. The drainage of 161 houses was completed. Notices for repairs or alterations to the drains of 121 houses had been received, making the total number in hand 344, of which 135 had been completed. Certificates had been granted that 157 houses had been built in accordance with the requirements of Section 84 of Ordinance 18 of 1901. The drains of 26 houses had been found to require reconstruction and notices served accordingly. In addition to these, 6,424 houses had been inspected with the result that 589 drainage nuisances had been discovered. 237 nuisances had been reported to the Medical Officer of Health and 85 to the Director of Public Works to be dealt with by them; 1,138 choked drain-pipes on private property had been cleaned.

## THE DEATH-RATE.

It was reported that the death-rate for the week ended 2nd August was 25.0 per 1,000 of the population per annum as against 26.4 in the previous week and 35.8 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

## LINE-WASHING RETURNS.

The line-washing returns for the fortnight ended 16th August showed that 285 houses in the Eastern District had been treated.

## BAT-CATCHING.

A cat was laid on the table showing that during the week ended 18th August 452 rats had been caught in Victoria and Kowloon. Of these 25 were found to be infected.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

## THE HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAY.

Original East Magazine Gap, Hongkong, 21st August, 1902.  
SIR,—If the Tramway Company would arrange to hoist a red flag, on a staff at the lower station, and another on the top of the Peak Hotel, whenever the service is discontinued, the Passengers would be made aware of the fact that they have to walk down, for those who could not actually see the flags would soon hear of them. Much vexation, because avoidable, delay would be saved, and at small cost. At present those of us who use Plantation Road Station, may go there and wait an indefinite time before we find out that the cars are not running; while if a flag were hoisted we could see it from Magazine Gap and go straight down, probably saving forty minutes, and some damage to our chances of going "topside" when our time comes.—Yours, etc.,

ARTHUR H. OUGH.

## THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS," Hongkong, 21st August.  
SIR,—Even to a casual observer the action taken by a section of the Dock Directorate at last Monday's meeting must appear entirely contrary to all precedent. I say a section, because it was noticed with satisfaction by those present that three members of the Board, and these not the least important, voted for the amendment, while one other Director stood neutral. It is thus seen that with all the talk of the Chairman as to the array of business talent, whose decision, we were told, shareholders ought to accept without demur, he was, after all, only voicing the opinion of six of his colleagues (including himself) and not that of the Board as a whole. That being so, who can blame the shareholders, even had they no other cause for dissatisfaction, for not abiding by a decision which was certainly the means of division in the camp of the Directorate?

It will, of course, be readily admitted that the Chairman was quite within his rights in the course he took, but for all that it was a high-handed proceeding, such powers not being conferred to be used arbitrarily. To have set at naught the decision of such an overwhelming majority of the most numerous shareholders, and that backed up by the votes of three leading Directors, on the demand of five shareholders representing insignificant interests, seems entirely opposed to all our preconceived notions of the relations which should exist between Directors and shareholders or rather between the paid servants of a Company and its proprietors. If shareholders are only to be called together for the purpose of confirming what has already been decided upon by the Directors, such meetings would become perfectly farcical.

As far as last Monday's proceedings are concerned, it would seem that the meeting was considered quite competent to pass the report and accounts as presented, because that would have coincided with the views of the Directors, or, as I must repeat, a section of them; it was not considered competent enough to reject or amend the same, because, forsooth, that was not in harmony with the views of these gentlemen. But, when one comes to think of it, there is "immortal fire," who demanded a poll, have shown themselves truly high-souled, for, according to the latest list, their own interests are not very important; but, just because of that, they were doubtless able to vote with a more open mind, and probably considered themselves, in a special sense, the sole guardians of the interests of the absent ones. Verily, such "unctuous rectitude" is very rare indeed.—Yours, etc.,

## AMENDMENT.

## POLICE COURT.

Thursday, 21st August.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HAZELAND (POLICE MAGISTRATE).

## ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

A Japanese who was arrested here some time ago for a criminal offence committed within the jurisdiction of the Straits Settlements was handed over to the custody of two Malay policemen, and will be conveyed back to Singapore for trial. He is alleged to have embezzled about \$25,000, and when arrested here, in consequence of telegraphic information from the police at Singapore, had only a little over \$1,000 in his possession.

## A CHANCE CAPTURE.

On Wednesday at noon Sergeant Patrick O'Sullivan saw a Chinaman disappear behind the Cattle Depot at Hungshom, carrying a box in his hand. The sergeant followed, and found him with the box open investigating its contents, which were made up of clothing, a clock, and \$315 in money. The Chinaman told a halting story as to how he came into possession of the articles, and was taken to the station where, later on, a report was made by a sampan woman that a box had been stolen from her boat. She identified that found in the possession of the prisoner as belonging to her, and was able to describe the contents.

The defendant was charged accordingly and sentenced to six weeks' hard labour. There was a previous conviction against him.

## BEFORE MR. J. A. KEMP (ACTING POLICE MAGISTRATE).

## A MEAN TRICK.

James O'Donnell, an unemployed ship's boy, living at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street, Wanchoi, pleaded guilty to stealing a suit of clothes and a tin-clip from A. Hardy, another inmate of the Home, and was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

Hardy was returning from a walk, accompanied by a soldier, when he met O'Donnell with a bundle under his arm. He asked the latter what he was carrying, and got for reply, "Oh, it's only my wash." Thinking a hour rather late for such an errand, Hardy asked to see the contents of the bundle, and O'Donnell refusing to comply he rushed away and on opening it found a bundle of clothes and a tin-clip. He immediately arrested O'Donnell and brought him with the thief to No. 2 Police Station.

## VLADIVOSTOCK.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

## TRANSFORMING A NORTHERN.

Vladivostok, August, 1902.

If it were not for the official purpose to adhere to the title of "Fortress," which from the beginning has attached to this place, there would be no hesitancy in designating it as a business city which has grown almost as if under the touch of magic, and which promises infinite commercial development. The warlike title is not unmerited, for the sheltering hills on all sides are so heavily armed as to make practically impossible hostile advances upon Russian territory from this starting point; a fleet usually lies in the harbour of sufficient strength to repulse ordinary attack; and the government maintains here a full equipment for military and naval administration. Yet growth has not been impeded by one of these agencies. Under cover of the forts, the fringes of water front for two miles or more, and inland for nearly half that distance, is rapidly passing to business use, some of it is already stone blocks, facing upon broad streets, and dwellings for civilians are fast filling places left bare on the hillside, and along the seashore. Stories that have come from visitors to Vladivostok, who felt oppressed while here by the military atmosphere, and their origin, either when the place had not become as at present, or in ill informed observation. There are uniforms everywhere, but that does not signify necessarily military or naval domination. When a man goes public employment, brass buttons on a blue coat go with the position, and he becomes entitled to wear the dress as long as may please his fancy, regardless of the period of that occupation. As a large percentage of the Russians here were first attracted by chance of office, these uniforms are not yet worn out, continue in daily evidence on the backs of many who no longer draw pay from the government, and strangers cannot be expected to distinguish such wearers from military or naval officers. The place is Russian enough, with its breakfasting morning and midnight dinners, its lumbering motor-cars, its banquets on the run by horse, its military and naval reviews, its training under the lash of military discipline, trained to seek the best places in the rough roads, so that a rider must have always tight his companion to save him from falling out, its signs of demoralised Greek and falling pronunciation; and in the wind which blows cold, when not bitterly savage. One is left in no doubt also that he is in Russia, when late must come off on a call at the post office for mail, or on entering a shop in which a priest has hung an *ikon*, to ask the price of something in the window, or to make a *voluntarily* purchase. But military life neither creates any chaos, and one may escape the attention imposed at Port Arthur, of reporting oneself to the police on arrival, and telling them one's life history. Indeed, the military force is much on view as at Port Arthur, where one would estimate off-and-on the number of troops by thousands. The force here is probably larger than there, but it would not be suspected from sight. It is not in the background, the latter is upon knowledge of "departures" in spite of their seeming disregard of civility. A representative will not be saluting them without written police order, attached to the passport of the visitor. There are times also when the vigilance of the police operates to the discomfort of those who wander forth without knowledge of the language. The captain of an English ship landed this morning, and when he came ashore to dine with the agent of his line. In the afternoon the residence of the hotel had been pointed out to him, and he had no doubt that he could find it, when he went abroad to visit for dinner. His confidence did not desert him on coming ashore again, but in order to make sure of finding the right hotel, he crossed the yard to the front door without before reaching the steps. Passing through the hall, he saw his friend waiting, and he went forward to him toward the door, and he saw that he had reached his destination, and he saw that he had reached his destination, and he saw that he had reached his destination.



loosed. In banking, no chance is taken on what the future may yield. That business is confined to the Russo-Chinese Bank which, enjoying a monopoly in its line, finances all the undertakings of houses in general business, at rates possible only under an arrangement for exclusive privileges. No bank business may be done without the mediation of that agency and it exacts toll for all enterprise. A house enjoying the favour of the Bank may skim the cream of business in its line, for a suggestion through the bank that orders be placed through such a house amounts to a notice that only in that way may the desired accommodation be had. It is no secret that the bank has furthered various enterprises on a joint account basis, sharing in the commercial profits therefrom besides getting the commissions chargeable in the regular way. There has been opportunity already for individual fortunes as well as for immense bank profits; but the managers, while not lacking in zeal for their institution, seem to have been strangely careless of chances for personal enrichment, and there is reason to believe that their positions have yielded them nothing except salaries. They are all Russians, a circumstance that makes the more singular a case of self-abnegation in a land where the "squeeze" abuse is rampant, where Russians have notoriously outstripped those past-masters in "squeeze," the Chinese, and where rare privileges extended to branches of the Russo-Chinese Bank have yielded fortunes to managers in other places, as well as tremendous profits to the bank. Some of those who think they might have made more of the openings for profits than have those in charge of the local branch, say that the Bank might have owned nearly all the land here and might thus have heaped up assets much more valuable than have been acquired, in addition to large private fortunes. No doubt a grab-all course might have been possible, had the managers felt so disposed; but that effort would have spoiled a record, wherein a monopoly, organised purely for gain, has been satisfied to confine itself, in the main, to lines of banking customary in the East, at a scale of charges that has permitted customers to prosper. Exception is to be noted in favour of the Japanese in the practice which calls for Russian registry of business partnerships. The Japanese are not yet engaging in large commercial operations here outside of shipping, but out of 4,000 of them in this administrative district, 3,000 of them are located in this city, and they are subject to no commercial restraint whatever. The official attitude toward them is unexceptionably friendly.

Chinese, who come here in large numbers, mostly all of the coolie class, develop into tradesmen with constantly increasing capital. Russian treatment of these people is ordinarily commendable. One would never suppose from it that there had been any slaughter of them elsewhere in the district so savage as to destroy every vestige of the city of Aigun, and blacken the Amur with the dead bodies of the inhabitants. But this is in line with Russian notions observed not so far North. When they have occasion to whip the Chinese they do it as hard as possible; but at other times they treat them kindly. A coolie here may carry his head high and set as if he were human, and had rights to be respected; and no one will molest him so long as he behaves tolerably. He is never an object of blows and curses, as at some of the foreign ports in China. Thousands of that class arrive every year from Choofoo, finding work here at good wages, and some remaining to go into trade or contracts. They would be encouraged by the authorities in larger commercial ventures, calculated to increase the prosperity of the port, and it seems likely that Chinese capital will be brought in for permanent account. Liberality in all lines is not to be expected at once of a government, bound by tradition to practice the old way. The tendencies observable in regard to foreign help in shaping the progress of this port may, indeed, be credited less to a change of heart toward foreigners than to the unwillingness or inability of Russian enterprise to respond to the conditions here presented. If men and money were coming in abundantly from that quarter, there might be a different story to tell regarding encouragement for the Chinese and Japanese. Capital or other co-operation from these lands may be favoured, merely as an agency to be used only so long as convenient for Russian plans, and afterward disregarded. Probabilities look the other way, for since the development to be accomplished is continental in its magnitude, it would seem as if no one now above ground could live long enough to see foreign capital disappear at this clearing-house for trade, but cynical concerning the ultimate intentions of Russia has sunk too deep to be uprooted by the appearance of such a tendency as that just pointed out, so it may as well now be attributed to motives of self-interest. Probably no Russian would urge that it was inspired by a sudden regard for the welfare of human kind of the Eastern species. One is brought to a chilling sense that this is Russia by a recent eruption of press censorship. When a censorship was arranged here, it promised to be lenient, for instead of assigning it to an official specially employed for that purpose, and hired to be rigid and exacting, it became an attachment to a school for Eastern languages, which the authorities wished to help by other means than direct subsidy. So the sum of 1500 roubles per year was allowed for a professorship, the duties of which were to include such inspection of newspapers as would keep the authorities informed on what their neighbours were saying of them. It seemed to be intended originally as a sort of official clipping office. If the exclusion of printed matter was contemplated, the intermediary was to be against printed of Japanese, Chinese, or Russian origin, which at best could circulate only in a small way, and could not be seriously misused if the mails failed to deliver them. After the censor-

ship had run nearly a year, it enlarged its scope to cover publications in other languages. Newspapers in English, printed in China and Japan, and papers from Europe and the United States fell under the ban. Since then all of these prints arriving by sea have been transmitted to Moscow, where they are read and mailed back, unless thrown away. In spite of the news famine and the isolation imposed by a long arctic season, Vladivostok is an engaging place. It is starting out with the confidence and ardour of undaunted youth; and in its physical habitation it may probably always enjoy the distinction of occupying most worthily a frontier further from its national capital than any other city in the world.

### SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, 21st August.  
IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS W. MEIGH  
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A.  
G. WISE (JUDGE).

CHAN CHI AND OTHERS v. WILLIAM  
MURISON.

In these two cases Chan Chi, Li Sang Chung, and Lai Yiu appealed against the judgment of the Police Magistrate, delivered on 4th July, by which they were convicted of keeping a gaming-house and sentenced to heavy penalties, the ground of appeal being that the conviction was erroneous and the evidence did not warrant a conviction. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. K. H. Branton, solicitor), appeared for the two first appellants; Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almeida e Castro, solicitor), for the third defendant; and Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, Crown Solicitor), appeared for the respondent.

The Attorney-General said he appeared for the Magistrate who gave the conviction in each of these cases. He appeared to support that conviction and oppose the motions that had been filed. Before his learned friends began, he desired to make preliminary objections to the hearing of the motions at all, there being no more clearly established rule than that where a Statute gave the right of appeal the requirements of that Statute must be scrupulously observed. It was also a generally established rule that where a Statute conferred upon a Court jurisdiction to hear an appeal the requirements of that Statute must be strictly observed by the Court. Bearing these observations in mind he desired to lay before the Court three preliminary objections to these motions being heard at all. One of these objections applied to what was called "a re-hearing" for which Mr. Sharp appeared; and which assumed to be, which pretended to be—used the word advisedly—an appeal on the question of law and fact. The third objection he had to make applied equally to Mr. Sharp's motion and to Mr. Slade's. In the case of Chan Chi and Li Sang, the appellants asked for leave to appeal to the Full Court by way of re-hearing on the ground that the conviction was erroneous in point of law and fact and that the evidence did not warrant a conviction. In Mr. Slade's case, the appellant asked for a re-hearing on the question of law. His first objection to Mr. Sharp's motion was that the Full Court had no power to entertain a motion for leave to appeal from the Magistrate, either on the question of law or on the question of fact. The Court could entertain a motion for re-hearing on a question of fact, they knew, but leave to appeal to the Full Court was to be granted by the Magistrate, who tried the case; not by the Full Court. The motion before their Lordships was one for leave to appeal, and there was an essential difference between that and a motion for re-hearing, leave having already been granted by the Magistrate. Ordinance 10 of 1890 which conferred upon the Full Court jurisdiction to hear an appeal did not confer any jurisdiction upon it to grant any one leave to appeal. Section 104 stated that any person who desired to question a conviction on the ground that it was erroneous in point of fact might apply to the Magistrate who heard the case for leave to appeal to the Full Court by way of re-hearing. If such leave was granted, the next procedure was prescribed by Section 105, which said that the appellant was to file a certificate together with the motion for re-hearing before the Full Court, setting forth shortly the grounds. The motion before their Lordships was a distinct motion for leave to appeal. If that Court had the power, it might grant leave to appeal or not, but it had no power. The motion did not comply with the requirements of the Statute. The appellant had already obtained leave from the Magistrate to leave to appeal. His proper procedure after that would have been to file that leave so as to inform the Court that he had obtained it. That Court could not give him leave. It had power to hear the appeal if he came before it properly, but this motion must be dismissed. The appellant could come before the Court, if so advised, in the proper way later on. His second objection was that even if the motion for leave to appeal could be regarded as a motion for re-hearing on the question of fact, this motion was ineffective because it did not comply with the requirements of section 105, inasmuch as it did not "set forth shortly the grounds." The section imperatively declared that the appellants shall file the motion for re-hearing and set forth the grounds therefor. The motion said generally that the Magistrate came to a determination which was erroneous in point of law and fact but did not set forth the grounds as required. Therefore the motion could not be heard. That disposed of the motion made by Mr. Sharp. Objection No. 3 to the motions was that an appeal on a question of law could not be brought before the Court by way of a motion for re-hearing. That procedure applied only to appeals on a question of fact and was regulated by Sections 94, 105 and 106. An appeal on a question of law was not a motion for re-hearing. The procedure was that after the Magistrate had been asked to state a case and had done so, the case was to be set down for argument before the Full Court, and notice thereof given to the other side. That had not been done. He submitted that there was therefore no appeal before the Court, and that both of the motions before the Court must be dismissed as not being formulated in the manner prescribed by law to enable the appellant to be heard or the Court to give a decision.

Mr. Sharp said that the form employed in this case was the form which had been generally in use. Of course, if it was bad, that would not carry them far, but he submitted it was not. It was perfectly clear that the Magistrate had granted leave of appeal, but that did not bind the Full Court. The Full Court had got to give its consent also. It was the proper form to take to ask the Court to exercise its discretion conferred upon it by Section 105.

The Justice said that the Full Court had never refused a re-hearing. Mr. Sharp believed that on one occasion a case had been sent back some years ago. The Justice said that it was sent back because after reading it through, the Court could not understand it from beginning to end.

Mr. Sharp added that what was desired was that the Court should exercise its discretion to grant or not grant a re-hearing. The Justice said that the appellant did not ask for a re-hearing but for leave to appeal. Mr. Sharp contended that the two things were practically identical. As to the second objection, that the grounds were not set forth, there was only one finding of fact and that was that these men kept a gaming-house; they only asked a section of the evidence and said it had been made by the Magistrate in applying to certain evidence to the wrong man—a slip that he believed the Magistrate admitted and was willing to correct.

The Chief Justice said that in his opinion the grounds had not been properly stated and that the notice of motion was all wrong; it should have read that on such and such a day the Court would be moved to re-hear, and should not have been for leave to appeal by way of re-hearing.

Mr. Sharp went on to say with regard to the third objection that the case was set down by the Court before they ever got the Magistrate's stated case.

The Chief Justice said that on the question of fact the motion appeared to him to be defective. It was not in compliance with section 105 of the Magistrates' Ordinance. In his opinion the proper form was to apply to the Court that the Court will be moved to re-hear and that, as regards grounds, it was not sufficient to set forth simply that the whole of the evidence did not support the conviction. He had seen that sometimes done in England and as a terminal ground in case everything had not been covered, but it was always in addition to some specific grounds stated. To simply say that the Magistrate had convicted upon the facts and should not have done so was not giving grounds at all. Therefore in his opinion the motion was bad and must be dismissed so far as the question of fact was concerned.

The Justice said he was of the same opinion.

Mr. Sharp was proceeding to speak on the question of law, when the Justice said that he had not got to state a case. He had not got to state a case, however. It was not sufficient to say that the case had been sent. They had not got to it.

Mr. Sharp explained that the case had been sent to the other side; if it had not been received he would have asked for an adjournment. The Attorney-General added that what Mr. Sharp had to do was to show that the case had been filed and that it had been set down at his request and notice given to them. They had not got to that notice.

Mr. Slade having addressed the Court, the Attorney-General stated that, as nothing for the sake of argument that the notice had been given as required, he took objection on the question of form. Only a motion for re-hearing was before the Court, and so his learned friend had no right to be there at all, for there could not be a "re-hearing" on a question of law. He asked their Lordships to dismiss the motions on the ground that they were not properly before the Court.

The Chief Justice said it appeared to him that there had been some singular misapprehension on the part of the appellants as to the mode in which these appeals should be conducted. The matter was clearly laid down in the Magistrates' Ordinance. With regard to the appeal on fact the motion should have been worded that the Court would be moved to re-hear, later on should be stated on what grounds the facts were held to be wrong. As to the stated case the Magistrate found a certain set of facts and stated what appeared to be right, and the party obtained that case by going to the Magistrate and asking him to state a case. He did so and then you had got to do material for appeal and what you had got to do was this: in 14 days from the delivery of that case you had to transmit the case to the Registrar, and before doing that you must give notice in writing of the appeal to the other side and send with it a copy of the case so stated. When you gave the case stated by the Magistrate, you gave the other side notice of what you were doing, but you did not raise the case, abandon it and therefore you must give notice to the other side that you were going to prosecute the appeal. When transmitted to the Registrar, it was to be set down for argument and was to be heard by the Full Court provided that the parties setting it down gave four days' clear notice of the day fixed by the Court for hearing. He had not any affidavit to enable him to ascertain what had been done. So far as the motion papers went the Court had come to the conclusion that the motions were bad. The only question was what they were to do with these two appeals on the question of law. The cases had been stated by the Magistrate and had been set down for argument, and it was pretty clear that the other side knew that they had been set down. The question was whether the mere fact of not giving formal notice was fatal to the hearing. He did not think the other side should take that view. He thought both notices were bad. Mr. Slade's motion would have been good if he had used the word "argument" instead of re-hearing. There was no question as to the notice of motion for re-hearing on a point of law. The best course, he thought, would be to dismiss both these motions with costs, and then the Court had still before them two cases set down for argument.

The Justice said that the Court was required that the parties setting down the case must give the other side four days' clear notice that it had been done. The only notice he had got was the notice of motion which their Lordships had just dismissed.

The Chief Justice remarked that in addition to dismissing the motions the Court would fix a day for next week for hearing the cases subject to any objection that might then be taken. The Court adjourned.

A German professor has discovered a process whereby old newspapers may be converted into new, and manufacturers save something like 55 per cent. Of course, much of the paper made nowadays is utilised a second time. Koop's method of remaking waste paper was worked in the earlier years of the nineteenth century at Bernmancy. But the process of manufacture would soon have been found, the paper made being found unfit for use. Of late years, however, the process has been brought extensively into use, old newspapers and books forming much of the material for repulping. It will therefore be seen that the idea is not a new one; but it is not likely to come into general practice. Assuming that the process of repulping were found generally practicable and economical, it is certain that the price of old newspapers would go up just as they did soon after the war began, when they rose from 15s. to 45s. a ton. Wood pulp is so cheap that manufacturers are quite satisfied to make the greater portion of their products from it with the addition of waste substances such as cotton and linen rags. London experts regard the pulp repulping of old newspapers as about equal to calico pulp. It has lost 20 per cent. of its value in the process of chemical emulsion, and is serviceable only for brown paper and cheaper qualities with a greyish tint.

Mr. Sharp added that what was desired was that the Court should exercise its discretion to grant or not grant a re-hearing. The Justice said that the appellant did not ask for a re-hearing but for leave to appeal. Mr. Sharp contended that the two things were practically identical. As to the second objection, that the grounds were not set forth, there was only one finding of fact and that was that these men kept a gaming-house; they only asked a section of the evidence and said it had been made by the Magistrate in applying to certain evidence to the wrong man—a slip that he believed the Magistrate admitted and was willing to correct.

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### LATE TELEGRAMS.

NEWS VIA JAPAN.

#### THE CORONATION.

A FEW MORE DETAILS.

London, 20th August.  
The Coronation ceremonies have just been completed. A railway saloon from Hyde Park and the Tower of London marked the successive stages of the actual ceremony in the Abbey. The Royal procession was of immense length. It included numberless Indian Princes and colonial representatives. The whole made a magnificent spectacle. The weather was favourable.

First in the procession appeared the Royal Family. Then came the foreign princes. The Prince and Princess of Wales and their suite had the third place. Then came the King and Queen, with guards and equippers. The procession continued in the following order: Standard-bearers; Harbours; Officials bearing the Regalia; Representative Dukes; Earls; Barons; Admirals; and Generals. Lord Kitchener, Admiral Seymour, and General Gascoigne rode abreast. Viscount Hayashi, Japanese Minister to London, was the Emperor of Japan's special representative in the Abbey. 16,000 troops, including a body of war veterans from South Africa, lined the route taken by the procession. There were two million spectators.

VIA AMERICA.

#### GENERAL NEWS.

R.C. ECCLESIASTICS IN THE PHILIPPINES.  
Rome, 22nd July.  
Besides an apostolic delegate for the Philippines, the Vatican is preparing to appoint an Archbishop of Manila, who probably will be Bishop Sebastian Gebhard, member of the Swiss, Bishop of Green Bay, Wis., since 1892. Three new Philippine dioceses will be created. Governor Taft expressed a desire that the Bishop of one of the new dioceses be a native Filipino.

CARDINAL LEDOCHOWSKI'S DEATH.  
Rome, 22nd July.  
Cardinal Ledochowski, prefect of the congregation of propaganda of the Roman Catholic church, died this morning after a long illness. Cardinal Ledochowski was out driving a car yesterday afternoon. When his valet entered his room at 9 o'clock this morning the Cardinal had a sudden paralytic stroke and succumbed. The Pope, on learning of Cardinal Ledochowski's death, was greatly distressed and exclaimed: "A valiant fighter for the church and religion has gone. His memory be blessed." The pontiff then knelt and prayed for the repose of the Cardinal's soul. With Cardinal Ledochowski's death, the Cardinals San Stefano and Parocchi are the only surviving cardinals created by Pope Pius IX.

THE DEPRESSION IN RUSSIA.  
London, 24th July.  
The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times, dealing with the commission appointed to inquire into the depression of the agricultural population, says: "The Government regards the question with the keenest anxiety, and there are indications that the leading Ministers are prepared to consent to sweeping changes in the fiscal policy, and even in the internal organisation of the country, if it be proven that such changes are necessary to obviate the danger of starvation among the discontented peasantry. Russian opinion is divided as to the causes of the depression. Many fixed a large share of the responsibility upon M. de Witte, Minister of Finance, who, they claim, artificially stimulates and encourages the industries and starves the agricultural interests, which are, and must remain, the mainstay of the country. These critics point to the paltriness of the sums devoted from the enormous budget to agriculture and commerce. All the witnesses examined agreed that the initiative must come from above, and be accompanied by the extension of peasant education."

FATAL RIOT IN GALICIA.  
London, 24th July.  
The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Express reports that the agrarian strike in the province of Galicia resulted to-day in a conflict between troops and strikers at Cortwork, in which, it is reported, twenty-three persons were killed and forty wounded.

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL.  
There is every prospect that the Panama Canal will now be built, and we may be certain that the United States engineer will bring it to a successful conclusion. Since the collapse of the original company a great amount of pioneering work has been done, and many of the difficult points have been cleared up. M. de Lesseps was not an engineer; he was a man of magnificent enthusiasm, and thought that enthusiasm could accomplish everything. He submitted to the most shameful blackmail because he believed that the canal would prove a gold-mine, and could easily bear any charges, however heavy, that might be laid upon it. To him all engineering was included in the word "extraction"; it was computed that so much extraction would complete the canal, and each month it advanced so far towards its completion. Unfortunately, the original estimates were far too little, and an immense amount of extraction was done many times over. Soft stuff was dredged from the canal and laid on the bank, with the effect that the pressure forced up the bed of the canal almost as fast as it was cut away, and the dredgers made very little headway. In the hands of American engineers it will be altered. Our countrymen have a genius for handling immense quantities of spoil at low cost, and they may be relied upon to meet all emergencies with new apparatus and methods. The proposed creation of Lake Bohio has simplified the whole design. From the Atlantic to the locks the cut is fairly straight and simple, through low country, the valley of the Chagres river. Then there is a sudden rise of nearly 90 ft. in two locks, to the summit level, which is about 21 miles in length. The first 14 miles are formed by damming the Chagres and will be completed by a massive dam. Then will follow 7 or 8 miles of very heavy cutting, much of it through bad soil, which will need most careful treatment. At the end of that section the descent commences in the Pacific, and this, unlike the ascent, is made in two stages, the first locks—the Pedro Miguel—having a drop of 54 ft. to 82 ft., and the second locks—the Miraflores—completing the descent of 13 ft. will be altered. Our countrymen have a genius for handling immense quantities of spoil at low cost, and they may be relied upon to meet all emergencies with new apparatus and methods. The proposed creation of Lake Bohio has simplified the whole design. From the Atlantic to the locks the cut is fairly straight and simple, through low country, the valley of the Chagres river. Then there is a sudden rise of nearly 90 ft. in two locks, to the summit level, which is about 21 miles in length. The first 14 miles are formed by damming the Chagres and will be completed by a massive dam. Then will follow 7 or 8 miles of very heavy cutting, much of it through bad soil, which will need most careful treatment. 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TREATIES WITH CHINA  
Great Britain:—Nanking, 1842; Tientsin,  
1858; Tariff Agreement and Rules, 1859;  
Convention, 1860; Rules for Joint Investiga-  
tion of Customs Seizures, 1869; Chofoo,  
1876, with Additional Article; Opium Con-  
vention, 1880; Chungking Convention, 1891;  
Tibet Sikkim Convention, 1890; Burmah  
Convention, 1897; Kowloon Extension, 1898;  
Weihaiwei Convention, 1898.

France:—Tientsin, 1858; Convention, 1860;  
Tientsin, 1865; Convention, 1865, 1867, and  
1895; Frontier Trade Regulations, 1895;  
United States:—Tientsin, 1858; Additional  
1868; Peking, 1880; Immigration, 1894.  
Germany:—Tientsin, 1861; Peking, 1880;  
Kiaochow Convention, 1898; Railway and  
Mining Concession, 1898.

Japan:—Shimonoseki, 1855; Liaotung Con-  
vention, 1895; Commercial, 1896; New Ports,  
1896.

Russia:—St. Petersburg, 1881; Russian Land  
Trade, 1881; Port Arthur and Tientsin  
Agreement, 1885.

Portugal, 1888.  
FINAN. PROTOCOL made between China and  
Eleven Powers, 1901.

TREATIES WITH JAPAN  
Great Britain, 1854; Duties Convention 1855;  
Russia, Agreements as to Corea; United  
States Extradition Treaty, 1866.

TREATIES WITH COREA  
Japan, 1876; Japan Supplementary, 1876  
United States, 1882; Great Britain, 1893  
Trade Regulations.

TREATIES WITH SIAM  
Great Britain, 1856; France, 1893; Japan, 1893  
Russia, 1893.

Customs Tariffs  
TRADE REGULATIONS  
LEGAL DOCUMENTS  
Orders in Council for Government of H.M.'s  
Subjects in China and Corea, 1865,  
1877, 1878, 1881, 1884, 1885, 1886,  
1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893,  
1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900,  
1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907,  
1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914,  
1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921,  
1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928,  
1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935,  
1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942,  
1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949,  
1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956,  
1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963,  
1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970,  
1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977,  
1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984,  
1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991,  
1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998,  
1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005,  
2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012,  
2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019,  
2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026,  
2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033,  
2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040,  
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2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103,  
2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110,  
2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117,  
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2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173,  
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2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236,  
2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243,  
2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250,  
2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257,  
2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264,  
2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271,  
2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278,  
2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285,  
2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292,  
2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299,  
2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306,  
2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313,  
2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320,  
2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327,  
2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334,  
2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341,  
2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348,  
2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355,  
2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362,  
2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369,  
2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376,  
2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383,  
2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390,  
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2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607,  
2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614,  
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2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649,  
2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656,  
2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663,  
2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670,  
2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677,  
2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683, 2684,  
2685, 2686, 2687, 2688, 2689, 2690, 2691,  
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